

[26 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) if so, whether it is also a fact that indigenous technology is not useful for the safety and security of the nation; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check the foreign spy aircrafts flying over the country?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No "spy aircraft" has been detected, though aircraft on surveillance mission have.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) There are set procedure to detect intruding aircraft. Once detected, the air defence system takes all appropriate action.

#### **Shifting of firing field in Hyderabad**

4438. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Army's firing field in Hyderabad, which was located outside the residential area, has now been covered by the residential houses;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that it has now become more and more inconvenient to the residents of the area;

(c) if so, whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has approached the Central Government to shift the firing field; and

(d) if so, whether authorities would be instructed to shift the field and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Lake Line Rifle Ranges, Shamirpet, the only firing range available in the station since 1964 for training personnel in uniform, has slowly been surrounded by increased papulation of Hyderabad city.

(c) and (d) The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has raised this issue in his discussions with the *Raksha Mantri*. Government of Andhra Pradesh, who have been approached for an alternative range, has not yet indicated any alternative site for the range.